

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium comprising:
a recording region for audio information and image information;
a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information; and
a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit,
wherein said first reproduction unit is composed of one or more said second reproduction units,
management information concerning said second reproduction unit is recorded in said medium, ~~[[and]]~~
a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described in said management information, and
said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information.

2. (Original) The medium according to claim 1, wherein at least one item of said management information, in which the reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described, includes information for

specifying image information to be displayed when said audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit which includes said second reproduction unit.

3. (Original) The medium according to claim 1, further comprising an area for storing identification information specific to said information storage medium.

4. (Original) The medium according claim 1, wherein, in a case where information recorded in the information storage medium is encrypted, said medium further comprises an area for storing information required for decrypting the encrypted information.

5. (Original) The medium according to claim 1, further comprising an area in which described is a process of performing mutual authentication between said medium and an apparatus for recording information in the medium or reproducing information from the medium.

6. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium comprising:
a recording region for audio information and image information;
a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information; and
a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit,

wherein said first reproduction unit is composed of one or more said second reproduction units,

management information concerning said second reproduction unit is recorded in said medium,

a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described in said management information,

said audio information includes a predetermined header and digital audio information compressed according to a predetermined method,

said predetermined header is stored in an area not encrypted, [[and]]

said compressed digital audio information is stored in an encrypted area in a predetermined encrypting unit, and

said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information.

7. (Currently Amended) An information storage medium comprising:
a recording region for audio information and text information;
a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information; and
a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit,

wherein said first reproduction unit is composed of one or more said second reproduction units,

management information concerning said second reproduction unit is recorded in said medium, and

a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said text information is described in said management information, and

said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information.

8. (Original) The medium according to claim 7, wherein at least one item of said management information, in which the reproduction relationship between said audio information and said text information is described, includes information for specifying text information to be displayed when said audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit which includes said second reproduction unit.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for reproducing audio information with an image from an information storage medium which has a recording region for audio information and image information; a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information; and a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit, wherein said first reproduction unit is composed of one or more said second reproduction units, management information concerning said second reproduction unit is recorded in said medium, and a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described in said management information, said method comprising:

a step for determining, utilizing said management information, the image information to be displayed when the audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit,

wherein said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:
a step, utilizing information recorded in said management information concerning said second reproduction unit to be reproduced first in said first reproduction unit, for determining image information to be displayed when said audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for reproducing audio information with text information from an information storage medium which has a recording region for audio information and text information; a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information; and a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit, wherein said first reproduction unit is composed of one or more said second reproduction units, management information concerning said second reproduction unit is recorded in said medium, and a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said text information is described in said management information, said method comprising:

a step for determining, utilizing said management information, the text information to be displayed when the audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit,

wherein said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for editing audio information with a still image using an information storage medium in which audio information and still image information are recorded, and management information indicative of a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said still image information is recorded, wherein said medium comprises a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information, first management information specifying still image information to be reproduced simultaneously when first audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit, and second management information specifying still image information reproduced simultaneously when second audio information different from said first audio information is reproduced in said first reproduction unit, said method comprising:

combining said first audio information and said second audio information with each other to produce third audio information that newly forms said first reproduction unit;

recording third management information corresponding to said third audio information on said information storage medium; and

including, in still image information specified in said third management information, all or at least part of still image information specified in said first management information, and including therein all or at least part of still image information specified in said second management information, and

~~The method according to claim 12, wherein[[,]]~~

in a case where said first audio information is reproduced earlier than said second audio information in said third audio information, a recording place for said third management information is utilized to be compatible with a recording place for said first management information;

in a case where a summation of the still image information specified in said first management information and the still image information specified in said second management information exceeds a predetermined value, a total number of the still image information specified in said third management information is reduced to the predetermined value so that a reduced number of the still image information remains, and information specifying the reduced number of remaining still image information is recorded at a portion corresponding to the first management information of said third management information; and

information specifying still image information other than the still image information specified in said third management information is recorded at a portion corresponding to the second management information of said third management information.

14 - 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A data structure used for an information storage medium having a recording region for audio information and image information, said data structure comprising:

a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information, and a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit, said first reproduction unit being composed of one or more said second reproduction units; and

management information concerning said second reproduction unit, wherein a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described in said management information,

said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information, and

said data structure is configured to include management directories of the audio information and the image information.

18. (Currently Amended) A data structure used for an information storage medium having a recording region for audio information and image information, said data structure comprising:

a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information, and a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit, said first reproduction unit being composed of one or more said second reproduction units; and

management information concerning said second reproduction unit, wherein a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said image information is described in said management information,

said audio information includes a predetermined header and digital audio information compressed according to a predetermined method,

said predetermined header is stored in an area not encrypted, and

said compressed digital audio information is stored in an encrypted area in a predetermined encrypting unit,

said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information, and

said data structure is configured to include management directories of the audio information and the image information.

19. (Currently Amended) A data structure used for an information storage medium having a recording region for audio information and text information, said data structure comprising:

a first reproduction unit for reproducing said audio information, and a second reproduction unit having fineness equal to or less than the first reproduction unit, said first reproduction unit being composed of one or more said second reproduction units; and

management information concerning said second reproduction unit, wherein a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said text information is described in said management information,

said management information is configured to include one or more regions of user defined program chains for storing program chain information defined by a user, the program chains indicating a sequence of information items including the audio information, and

said data structure is configured to include management directories of the audio information and the text information.